

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
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R 291632Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1142
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

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USEEC, PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD

E.O. 11652: N A
TAGS: EEC, FT, PDEV, EAID
SUBJECT: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL, JULY 25-26, 1977:
DJIBOUTI

REF: BRUSSELS 6065

1. THE JULY 25-26 EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL
TOOK NOTE OF A REQUEST FROM THE REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI FOR
ACCESSION TO THE LOME CONVENTION. THE FORMAL REPLY TO
DJIBOUTI, HOWEVER, IS TO BE MADE BY THE EC/ACP COUNCIL
EARLY NEXT YEAR; IT IS EXPECTED TO BE POSITIVE.

2. THE DJIBOUTI REQUEST ALSO ASKED THAT ACCESSION PRO-
CEDURES NOT BE ALLOWED TO DELAY EC COMMISSION DECISIONS
ON PENDING DEVELOPMENT FINANCE OPERATIONS, TECHNICAL
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ASSISTANCE, AND STABEX TRANSFERS CONCERNING DJIBOUTI.
THE COUNCIL ACCORDINGLY ADOPTED A DECISION EXTENDING FOR
ONE YEAR (WITH PROVISION FOR FURTHER EXTENSION IF
NECESSARY) ARRANGEMENTS FOR DJIBOUTI PROVIDED IN ITS
JUNE 29, 1976 DECISION ON AID TO ASSOCIATED OVERSEAS
COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES, WHICH INCLUDE PROVISIONS
RELATING TO TRADE, EXPORT EARNINGS STABILIZATION, AND

FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION. THE COUNCIL PRESS RELEASE ANNOUNCING THE DECISION EMPHASIZES THE "SPECIAL POLITICAL IMPORTANCE WHICH THE COMMUNITY ATTACHES TO ECONOMIC STABILITY IN AN AREA OF AFRICA WHICH IS THREATENED BY POLITICAL TROUBLES."

3. THE COUNCIL ALSO ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON RELATIONS WITH DJIBOUTI:

QUOTE: A. PENDING THE ACCESSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI TO THE LOME CONVENTION, THE COMMUNITY WILL SUPPORT DJIBOUTI'S REQUEST TO TAKE PART IN THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE EEC-ACP INSTITUTIONS AS AN OBSERVER.

B. THE COMMUNITY INTENDS TO GIVE SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION TO THE REQUEST BY THE REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI CONCERNING THE MEASURES IT WOULD LIKE TO TAKE TO ENSURE REPRESENTATION WITH THE COMMUNITY.

C. THE COUNCIL HOPES THAT THE REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI WILL UNDERTAKE TO OBSERVE THE PROVISIONS GOVERNING RELATIONS BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND THE OVERSEAS COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES DURING THE PERIOD IN WHICH THESE PROVISIONS ARE TEMPORARILY APPLICABLE TO IT.

D. SHOULD THE REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI NOT HAVE ACCEDED TO THE LOME CONVENTION BY 26 JUNE 1978 THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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COUNCIL WILL AGREE TO EXTEND ITS DECISION OF 25 JULY 1977 FOR AN APPROPRIATE PERIOD. END QUOTE.

4. COMMENT: COMMISSION OFFICIALS INFORM US THAT THE FOREGOING COUNCIL DECISIONS STEM MERELY FROM LEGAL/PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS TO ENABLE DJIBOUTI TO BRIDGE INTERIM PERIOD BEFORE NEXT EC-ACP COUNCIL MEETING IN FEBRUARY 1978. DURING THIS PERIOD, COMMISSION ALSO HOPES TO INCREASE PRESENTLY EARMARKED 3.5 MILLION UNITS OF ACCOUNT (REFTEL) IN EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT FUND AID FOR DJIBOUTI TO APPROXIMATELY 4 MILLION UNITS OF ACCOUNT (4.6 MILLION DOLLARS). HINTON

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